

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/037,689

Applicant(s)

NEUFELD ET AL.

Examiner

Thu Ha T. Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to July 05, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date attached herein.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicants' Representative, Mr. Tait R. Swanson (Reg. No. 48,226), on August 11, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follow:

In the claims:

4. Claims 1-14 are amended as following:

5. Claims 28-30 are newly added.

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing sound between a remote computer system and an interfacing computer system, comprising the acts of:

audibly interfacing with a computer management module disposed on a the remote computer system from an the interfacing computer system via a network comprising:

detecting audio settings of the remote computer system;

transmitting the audio settings to the interfacing computer system

via a network;

configuring audio circuitry of the interfacing computer system based on the audio settings to provide an audio interface between the interfacing computer system and the computer management module;

~~transmitting~~ capturing audio data responsive to software or hardware events occurring on the remote computer system; transmitting the audio data from the remote computer system to the interfacing computer system;

processing the audio data via the audio circuitry based on the audio settings of the remote computer system to produce substantially identically sounds originating at the remote computer system; and converting the audio data to an analog signal at the interfacing computer system;

graphically interfacing with the computer management module disposed on the remote computer system from the interfacing computer system via the network to enable user management via the computer management module in response to the software or hardware events.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the act of~~ detecting audio settings of the remote computer system comprises ~~the act of~~ detecting settings of audio input/output registers.

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3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the act of~~ detecting audio settings of the remote computer system comprises ~~the act of~~ detecting settings of sound synthesis registers.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the act of~~ detecting audio settings of the remote computer system comprises ~~the act of~~ detecting sound tables.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, comprising ~~the act of~~ copying audio settings corresponding to sound synthesizer registers and sound tables.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the act of~~ configuring audio circuitry comprises ~~the acts of~~:

programming registers of the audio circuitry to at least partially match register settings of the remote computer system; and

storing sound tables of the remote computer system at the interfacing computer system.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, comprising ~~the acts of~~:
capturing an audio command generated at the remote computer system;
transmitting the audio command to the interfacing computer system; and

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processing the audio command via the audio circuitry based on the audio settings of the remote computer system.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, comprising ~~the act of~~ playing the audio data at the interfacing computer system for a remote event occurring on the remote computer system.

9. (Currently amended) A method for providing sound between a remote computer system and an interfacing computer system, comprising the ~~acts of~~:

detecting audio settings of a remote computer system;

transmitting the audio settings to the interfacing computer system

via a network;

configuring audio circuitry of the interfacing computer system based on the audio settings detected on the remote computer system and the interfacing computer system;

detecting audio data generated at a the remote computer system in response to a system event;

processing and converting the audio data into a desired audio format at the remote computer system;

transmitting the audio data to an the interfacing computer system via a the network;

interpreting and playing the audio data with the audio circuitry at the

interfacing computer system for interaction with the system event
with substantially identical sounds at the interfacing computer
system relative to the remote computer system;

displaying on the interfacing computer system a graphical user interface
linked with a computer management module disposed on the
remote computer system to enable remote management of the
remote computer system in response to the system event; and
directing the computer management module on the remote computer
system to control the system event from the interfacing computer
system.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, comprising ~~the acts of~~:
detecting video data generated at the remote computer system;
transmitting the video data to the interfacing computer system via the
network; and
displaying the video data at the interfacing computer system.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein ~~the act of~~
detecting audio data comprises ~~the act of~~ capturing audio data directed to audio
circuitry of the remote computer system.

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12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, comprising ~~the act of~~ remotely managing the remote computer system via the interfacing computer system.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the act of~~ remotely managing the remote computer system comprises ~~the act of~~ interacting with a network management module disposed on the remote computer system.

14. (Currently amended) A system for interacting with a remote computer system, comprising:

an audio configuration analysis module adapted to identify and copy audio settings of the remote computer system;

an audio configuration setup module adapted to configure audio circuitry of an interfacing computer system based on the audio settings;

an audio capturing transmission module adapted to transmit capture audio data responsive to a system event occurring on the remote computer system;

a transmission module adapted to transmit the audio data from the remote computer system to the interfacing computer system ~~for emulation of a sound originating on the remote computer system at the interfacing computer system;~~

a processing module adapted to process the audio data via the audio circuitry based on the audio settings of the remote computer system to produce substantially identical sounds originating at the remote computer system;

converter adapted to convert the audio data to an analog signal at the interfacing computer system;

a computer management module disposed on the remote computer system and adapted to provide real-time interaction between the remote computer system and the interfacing computer system; and

a graphical user interface adapted to link the interfacing computer system with the computer management module disposed on the remote computer system, wherein the graphical user interface includes functions to respond to the system event indicated by the sound originating on the remote computer system and emulated on the interfacing computer system.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the computer management module comprises a voice recognition application adapted to receive voice audio data from the interfacing computer system and respond to voice commands receives via the a voice audio data.

28. (new) A method for providing sound from a remote computer system to an interfacing computer system, comprising:

detecting audio settings of the remote computer system;

transmitting the audio settings to the interfacing computer system via a network, wherein the interfacing computer system is adapted to:

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configure audio circuitry of the interfacing computer system based on the audio settings to provide an audio interface between the interfacing computer and the remote computer system; capturing audio data responsive to software or hardware events occurring on the remote computer system; transmitting the audio data from the remote computer system to the interfacing computer system, wherein the interfacing computer system is adapted to:

process the audio data via the audio circuitry based on the audio settings of the remote computer system to produce substantially identical sounds originating at the remote computer system on the interfacing computer system; and convert the audio data to an analog signal at the interfacing computer system; and providing a graphical interface with a computer management module disposed on the remote computer system to the interfacing computer system via the network to enable user management via the computer management module in response to the software or hardware events.

29. (new) The method of claim 28, comprising receiving an interface request at the remote computer system from the interfacing computer system.

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30 (new) The method of claim 29, comprising responding to the interface request by at least transmitting the audio settings of the remote computer system to the interfacing computer system via the network.

Reasons for Allowance

6. Claims 1- 30 are allowed.
7. Claims 28-30 are newly added.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification, the examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination that a system and method providing sound from a remote computer system to an interfacing computer system, comprising: detecting audio settings of a remote computer system; transmitting the audio settings to the interfacing computer system for configuring audio circuitry of the interfacing computer system based on the audio settings detected on the remote computer system and the interfacing computer system. The method also comprising detecting audio data generated and occurred at remote computer system; processing and converting the audio data into a desired audio format at the remote computer system; after processing the audio data at remote computer system, transmitting the audio data to an the interfacing computer system. The prior art also fails to teach or suggest the feature of, at the interfacing computer system, interpreting and playing the audio data with the audio circuitry at the interfacing computer system

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for interaction with the system event with substantially identical sounds at the interfacing computer system relative to the remote computer system; displaying on the interfacing computer system a graphical user interface linked with a computer management module disposed on the remote computer system to enable remote management of the remote computer system in response to the system event and directing the computer management module on the remote computer system to control the software or hardware event from the interfacing computer system as set forth in independents 1, 9, 14 and 28 and in combination with subsequent dependent claims 2-8, 10-13, 15-27 and 29-30 (see remark dated July 05, 2006 and also see specification page 5, line 13-page 6, line 12, page 17, line 9-page 20, line 11).

9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Ha Nguyen, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3989. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

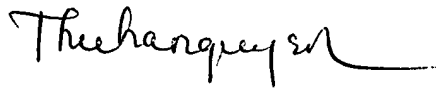
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Najjar Saleh, can be reached at (571) 272-4006.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or

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proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ThuHa Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ThuHa Nguyen

Patent Examiner
August 16, 2006